

# Inside Seven

NOVEMBER 2000

**Caltrans** DISTRICT 7 EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

GRAY DAVIS, GOVERNOR

MARIA CONTRERAS-SWEET, SECRETARY OF BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY  
ROBERT W. SASSAMAN, DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR

JEFF MORALES, DIRECTOR

## ROUTE 210 GROUNDBREAKING

### A "Shining Example" of Governor Davis' Commitment to Congestion Relief



**"A time for celebration" at Route 210 groundbreaking.** Left to right: Kees Woudenbergh, aide to Congressman Gary Miller; Norman King (rear), Executive Director, San Bernardino Association of Governments; Corey Calaycay (front), aide to Assemblyman Bob Margett; Rodney Mitchell (rear), aide to Senator James Brulte; Ray Musser, Councilmember, City of Upland; James Starkey, aide to Assemblyman Bob Margett; Chris Freeland, aide to Congressman David Dreier; Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Thomas, City of Upland; Mayor Pro-Tem Patrick Gatti, City of La Verne; Mayor Karen Rosenthal, City of Claremont; Business, Transportation and Housing Secretary Maria Contreras-Sweet; Caltrans Director Jeff Morales; Caltrans District 8 Director Stan Lisiewicz; Caltrans District 7 Director Robert W. Sassaman; and James L. de la Loza, Executive Officer, Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

October 13 marked the groundbreaking for the last portion of the \$1 billion Foothill Freeway (I-210) extension from Los Angeles County to San Bernardino County. California Secretary of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, Maria Contreras-Sweet, Caltrans Director Jeff Morales and a host of local officials were on hand at a special ceremony to celebrate the momentous occasion.

"With the beginning of this last leg of the I-210 extension, we are sending a loud and clear message to all those travelers who each day negotiate their way on local streets. Help is on the way!" said Morales.

Joining Secretary Contreras-Sweet and Director Morales were: Mayor Karen Rosenthal, city of Claremont; Mayor Pro-Tem Diane Williams, city of Rancho Cucamonga; Mayor Pro-Tem Patrick Gatti, city of La Verne; Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Thomas, city of Upland; James L. de la Loza, Executive Officer, County-Wide Planning and Development, Metropolitan Transportation Authority; Kees Woudenbergh, aide to Congressman Gary Miller; Corey Calaycay and Jim Starkey, aides to Assemblyman Bob Margett; Rodney Mitchell, aide to Senator James Brulte; city of Claremont Councilmembers Al Leiga and Suzan Smith; City of Upland Councilmember Ray

Musser; and Stan Lisiewicz, Caltrans District 8 Director.

This portion of the Foothill Freeway corridor stretches through San Bernardino and Los Angeles Counties through the cities of La Verne, Claremont, Upland, Rancho Cucamonga, Fontana, Rialto and San Bernardino for a total length of 28.2 miles. Included in the improvements are 49 new structures, 14 local street interchanges, one freeway-to-freeway interchange, retaining walls, soundwalls and landscaping. The improvement project will facilitate the movement of people and goods, removing some 43,000 vehicles per day from local arteri-

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## THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

**G**overnor Gray Davis' Transportation Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) is a great opportunity for Caltrans to develop transportation improvement projects to help relieve congestion, especially throughout the Los Angeles region. The Governor's program provides funds for projects long overdue in this area. Some projects will require local and additional state and federal funds. We are looking forward to the acceleration of these projects as we continue to strive to improve mobility for the motoring public of California.

One of the last major freeway improvement projects to be constructed in the Los Angeles region is Route 210 (formerly named Route 30) in eastern Los Angeles County. This project provides a connection from the Golden State Freeway (I-5) in the upper part of the San Fernando Valley to the San Bernardino Freeway (I-10) in the city of Redlands in San Bernardino County, a distance of 75 miles. This will help to provide mobility and congestion relief along the foothills plus added relief to the San Gabriel/Pomona Valley east/west corridor [Pomona Freeway (60) and the San Bernardino Freeway (I-10)]. The project will provide eight additional lanes, including two High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes. It will also alleviate congestion on surface streets in the region for both Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties.

The Route 210 groundbreaking ceremony held on October 13 was attended by Business, Transportation and Housing Secretary Maria Contreras-Sweet, Caltrans Director Jeff Morales and local elected officials. The event celebrated the beginning of the project which will connect Los Angeles to San Bernardino counties. It was a pleasure to see so many residents and elected officials attending the ceremony. We have been working closely with our local partners, the cities of La Verne and Claremont in the county of Los Angeles, to mitigate impacts to the involved communities and the motoring

public. Both cities have been very supportive. District 8 Director Stanley Lisiewicz is working closely with the cities in San Bernardino County to accomplish the improvement project with minimal impacts to commuters and residents. We look forward to maintaining these cooperative relationships as Caltrans continues working toward seamless transportation in the region.

I would like to welcome Raja Mitwasi as the new Division Chief for Program and Project Management. Previously, Raja was the Division Chief of Planning and Public Transportation for over five years. I want to thank the office chiefs who have served in an acting capacity at the division chief level during this transition period. And the very best to Raja in his new assignment!

It has been very refreshing to see so many new faces at Caltrans. Our recent hiring has certainly paid off. We have a lot of great new employees who have come through our doors to help deliver Caltrans programs and improvement projects. I can't recall attending employee orientation meetings that were so upbeat as the ones that have been held over the past month. Many employees are brand new and this is their first job after college; some are changing careers; and others are coming to work here from other organizations. Whatever the case, they have brought a real enthusiasm to Caltrans. I hope they take every opportunity to learn all they can about Caltrans, not only about District 7, but about all the other districts and Headquarters as well. Their peers and supervisors can offer them a wealth of knowledge. Considerable information is also available on the Intranet. I wish all our new employees the best. I know they will find rewarding careers at Caltrans! •

**ROBERT W. SASSAMAN**  
District Director



## Alfred Himelhoch, Former Deputy District Director, Dies At 85

**A**lfred Lee Himelhoch, former Deputy District Director who retired in 1975 after 39 years at Caltrans, died recently at the age of 85 after a lengthy illness. Himelhoch received his Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Southern California and began working for the Division of Highways (the predecessor to Caltrans) in 1936.

Himelhoch first worked on the Angeles Crest Highway, where it took an hour and a half to reach his job. His crew hiked an hour from the end of the road, worked an hour, had lunch, worked another hour, hiked an hour back to the road, and then drove an hour and a half to get home. Throughout this schedule, all equipment was hand-carried.

In 1937 Himelhoch transferred to Bishop in lieu of a layoff, then came back to Los Angeles in November 1940. Over the years he worked in every department except Maintenance. He recalled the San Bernardino Busway creation as the outstanding experience of his career. He said, "We were asked to get it built and operating in an impossible time – and we

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**Celebrating the new Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) station.** Left to right: Frank Quon, Caltrans Division Chief, Operations; Captain John O'Brien, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Betty De Santis, Chairwoman, Las Virgenes Council of Governments; Congressman Brad Sherman; Marilyn Lueck, former Malibu City Manager; Mayor Tom Hasse, City of Malibu.

## Highway Advisory Radio In Malibu

### First Antennae Raised for New Highway Advisory Radio Station

A recent ceremony in Malibu celebrated the raising of the first antennae of a future Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) station to help inform commuters in the area of incidents or emergencies that may affect their commute.

HAR signs in combination with flashing beacons will be installed on the side of the roadway. In the event of a traffic accident, for example, the flashing beacons will be activated to advise motorists to tune in to a particular radio frequency to receive detailed traffic information regarding the incident. Sameer Haddadeen, Project Manager, said, "The primary benefit of the HAR system is to provide motorists with real-time emergency- and highway-related information upon which they can make informed motoring choices." When operational, the HAR system will provide extensive coverage on the Ventura Freeway (101) from the Ventura county line to the San Diego Freeway (405); the San Diego Freeway (405) from the Ventura Freeway (101) to the Santa Monica Freeway (10); and on Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) (1) from the Santa Monica Freeway (10) to the Ventura county line.

Present at the ceremony were local elected officials, members of the media, area residents and Caltrans representatives, including: Congressman Brad Sherman; Mayor Tom Hasse, city of Malibu;

Betty De Santis, Chairwoman, Las Virgenes Council of Governments; Captain John O'Brien, Los Angeles County Sheriff's department; Marilyn Leuck, former Malibu City Manager; and Frank Quon, Caltrans Division Chief of Operations.

Congressman Sherman said, "I believe this much needed emergency advisory system has tremendous potential and will become a much used tool for both visitors to Malibu and the residents of this coastal and mountain area."

Caltrans has also recently completed a signal upgrade on PCH in Malibu which included state-of-the-art video detection for traffic signal operation. This will result in a more reliable traffic management system. Also, recently completed was an improvement project to install rumble strips in the median of PCH to prevent errant drivers from causing accidents. According to Quon, future projects on PCH include changeable message signs, closed-circuit television cameras for road surveillance and incident management, slow scan monitoring cameras and smart crosswalks. He said, "These projects will further Caltrans' commitment for congestion relief and traffic safety."

The HAR project will be built in two stages; the first stage should be operational during the first part of 2001 and the second phase will be completed during the following summer. •

## Rte. 210

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als, such as Baseline Road, Foothill Boulevard and Arrow Highway.

Contreras-Sweet called the I-210 extension a shining example of the Davis Administration's commitment to deliver desperately needed transportation improvements to keep California on the move. She said, "The economic vitality of eastern Los Angeles County and San Bernardino County is crucial to the overall well-being of California. With completion of this project, we will have a continuous ribbon of freeway to serve travelers all the way from I-5 in northern Los Angeles County to I-10 in Redlands, more than 75 miles away."

The extension will take the freeway from its current terminus in La Verne through the cities of La Verne, Claremont, Upland, Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana. Opening date is 2002. The final segment, which will complete the freeway extension to I-215 in San Bernardino, will be completed in 2005 for a total distance of 28.2 miles.

The extension has four major components:

- Realignment of the San Antonio flood control channel under both the freeway and Baseline Road.
- Widening and constructing new bridges at Baseline Road and Monte Vista Avenue over the freeway.
- Constructing on- and off-ramps at Baseline Road.
- Constructing 6.5 miles of mainline freeway from Indian Hill Boulevard in Claremont to the Los Angeles/San Bernardino County line. Route 210 will feature three mixed-flow lanes and one High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane in each direction. The freeway will be depressed 30 feet below ground just west of Monte Vista Avenue in Claremont. The freeway will gradually rise – heading east – where it will be above ground entering San Bernardino County. Two other contracts, which will complete the freeway in Los Angeles County, will be awarded shortly.

Mayor Karen Rosenthal, city of Claremont said, "We are eagerly awaiting the beginning of this construction phase. Hopefully, completion of this segment will help to alleviate congestion in this region."

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## Barry Khaviari Remembered

*Contributing Writer, Stephen Pang, Office Chief, Construction*

**I**t was estimated that 50 people from Caltrans Districts 7 and 12 joined the family of the late Barry Khaviari, Senior Construction Engineer, not just to say good-bye, but to celebrate the life of Barry, whose sincerity, humility, warmth and love touched so many people during his eight and one-half-year tenure at Caltrans.

Barry's untimely departure left a big void in those who came to know him and admire him. As a Construction Manager, he oversaw a large number of contracts in the southern portion of the district. The most notable was the \$26-million contract for seismic retrofit of the Vincent Thomas Bridge at the Port of Los Angeles. This was an extremely complex steel bridge involving a large number of design changes. In addition, the contractor worked around endangered species nesting on the beams and girders of the structure. During the almost four years of work, Barry was always sensitive to the needs of the motoring public. Not a single complaint letter was received about this contract. And the contractor completed the work without a claim. All this was a testament to Barry's dedication and skills in contract management.

Barry set a good example for his staff. He created a warm and supportive work environment which resulted in increased

productivity and improved quality in his unit. He will be sorely missed in the Carson office.

As a human being, Barry demonstrated the meaning of the American dream. Coming from a humble background in Iran, he worked hard and persevered against all odds to be a successful citizen of his community. He was also a learned scholar, fluent in five languages (learning Spanish at the time of his death), keen in classical music and an avid believer in exercise. He deeply loved his wife of 35 years, his son and his family, and his daughter, all of whom are successful in their own right. And he greatly adored his grandson.

As Barry's son commented at the memorial service at Pacific View Memorial Park, "We are all saddened by the sudden departure of Barry, but we are comforted and enriched by the fact that he demonstrated to us the true meaning of life. Some day we will all see his smiling face again in the arms of our Creator."

Friends and coworkers have offered the following words of remembrance:

From Peter Chan, Division Chief, Construction: "Barry Khaviari's passing is a big loss for the Construction Division. His warm personality and his dedication to work along with his wit and love toward life and friends will always be remembered by all of us." From Ghassan Dagher, Chief, Construction Engineering Management: "Barry was a kind and gentle person. He would always make you feel special. He always used to tell me, 'Life is too short; let us live it with happiness and be thankful every second for all the things that God has given us.' Barry was humble and always tried to do the best he could in the Division of Construction. I will miss him."

From Tad Teferi, Chief, Office of Project Management North and Barry's former supervisor in Construction: "Barry had a positive attitude and a willingness to help everyone. He was always gentle and cheerful, which made it a pleasure to work with him."

From Mogus Brook, Senior Transportation Engineer, Construction: "The first picture that comes to my mind when I think of Barry is of a gentleman in the classic tradition. He would approach you with his gentle smile, a bow and a greeting to all. With some of us, this was usually followed by a short discourse of comparisons of current events with that of a historical one. His favorite was

Napoleon's failed attempt to conquer Russia and of the old Russian General who masterminded the Russian army's retreat and counter offense strategy. Ever since coming to Construction, for me Wednesday's Senior weekly meeting was one at which I had been accustomed to hearing Barry somehow taking the floor and giving it a *vivre*. This was done in a scholastic tone by imparting some useful information that he had acquired or of an event that concerned the group. He was an educator at heart. All of us are missing him."

From Mike Perovich, Office Chief, Design, Branch C: "Barry was a pleasant fellow as you would ever want to meet. He was always smiling and had a somewhat professorial countenance. His mind was always racing ahead of the conversation. He had been educated in France and was very proud of the scholastic accomplishments of his two children here in the United States. I think Barry's likeability resulted in the high performance of his staff – because they were so fond of him."

From George Chirinian, Senior Construction Engineer: "He was my dear friend."

From Youssef Youssefzadeh, Safety Officer, Construction: "Barry must have been special to capture the hearts of so many people. He was... he was Barry — loving, caring, passionate, humble — but most of all, he was true to all. He was Barry."

From Mitra Vahid and Jaleh Youssefiha: "Barry's humility and kindness will never be forgotten. As we remember him in our minds and hearts, let us all follow his selfless example. May his memory inspire us all."

The Khaviari family sent the following note of appreciation to Caltrans: "To all Caltrans employees, thank you for your kindness. Our family would like to thank you for all the cards, flowers, letters, kind words and support you have given us. We appreciate all the support and loving gestures more than you can imagine. You made our family feel so good to know that Barry was so adored at Caltrans. We will never forget how many of you came to the funeral to offer your condolences and say goodbye to our loving husband and father. Your support will never be forgotten and we know Barry was looking down on all of you with a smile on his face and a tear in his eye. Thank you again for all your support." •

# Pacific Coast Highway Restoration And Rehabilitation

***"This Project Definitely Makes the Image of Caltrans Outstanding in Every Respect."*** — Mayor J. R. Reviczky, City of Hermosa Beach

A six-month improvement project to rehabilitate, restore and beautify Pacific Coast Highway (1) in the cities of Los Angeles, Lomita, Torrance, Redondo Beach and Hermosa Beach completed recently to the delight of residents and local elected officials alike. The 11-mile, \$4.2-million project was delivered on time, with no claims, no public complaints, and within scope, cost and schedule, according to project manager John Vassiliades.

During construction, some five major utility permit projects with significant underground work were simultaneously executed by the cities of Torrance, Redondo Beach and Hermosa Beach along Pacific Coast Highway. Vassiliades said, "Coordination was crucial to minimize delays or conflicts with the different construction crews involved. The cities, the contractor Sully Miller, and Caltrans crews worked around the clock and around each other on new sewer line construction, new water mains, new gas mains and storm drains — all in a monumental team effort to get the job done." In addition, Caltrans Media Relations/Public Affairs staff kept the public informed through regular press releases in local newspapers.

George Chirinian, Senior Construction Engineer, said that Caltrans worked hard to mitigate impacts to local businesses, residents and the motoring public during construction. He said, "Reza Jahromi, Resident Engineer, was out there on the front line coordinating work with local cities, permit contractors and others in an effort to minimize disruptions. He went that extra mile addressing all concerns immediately and adjusted work schedules when needed in order to mitigate any and all inconveniences to residents, businesses and commuters. He did an outstanding job."

Jahromi responded, "I was pleasantly surprised at the number of congratulations we received, including a letter from

the Mayor of Hermosa Beach, the city of Torrance and from satisfied residents and businesses. Our success is due to our collective team effort."

Vassiliades added, "I would like to thank the following employees for their dedication to this project: Kelly Lamare, Chief, Office of Project Management South; Reza Jahromi, Resident Engineer; Monir Ibrahim, Senior Transportation Engineering, Maintenance Design; Yu-Ying Chu, former Project Engineer, Maintenance Design; Alberto Angelini, Chief, Office of Program Management; George Kohama, Associate Transportation Engineer, Office of Programming; Joon Kang, Senior Transportation Engineer, Maintenance; Stewart Fong, Transportation Engineer; and Presley Burroughs, Media Relations/Public Affairs. It was a smooth operation thanks to the teamwork of everyone involved." •

# New Freeway Signs Unveiled For "Thai Town"

Sheik Moinuddin, Senior Transportation Engineer, was delighted to represent Caltrans at a recent unveiling of two new freeway signs that direct motorists to "Thai Town" in Los Angeles. Assembly Speaker Emeritus Antonio Villaraigosa, spearheaded the sign effort. The ceremony took place at the 8th Annual Thai Cultural Day celebration at the Thai Community Development Center (CDC).

The two signs are now located on the northbound and southbound Hollywood Freeway (101) at the Hollywood Boulevard off-ramps. Moinuddin said, "The signs will help to promote the community's visibility and enhance the general and economic well-being of the community. And we believe it is one of our vital responsibilities to help promote businesses and tourists attractions within our communities." •



**Unveiling a replica of the new "Thai Town" freeway signs.** Left to right: Siriwon Nimitsilpa, member Thai Town CDC; Chanchanit Martorell, Executive Director, Thai Town CDC; Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa; Sheik Moinuddin, Caltrans Senior Transportation Engineer; Vibul Wonprasat, President, Thai Cultural Day Parade; and Ernesto J. Vigoreaux, Program Director, Thai Town CDC.

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We can hardly wait until the project is completed."

An ongoing school safety awareness program was developed by Caltrans Media Relations/Public Affairs staff to alert students, teachers and parents of construction activities and safety awareness. In addition, a Business Assistance program developed by the corridor cities promotes local businesses while construction is under way.

Mayor Pro-Tem Patrick Gatti, city of La Verne, summed up the collective enthusiasm when he said, "Here's to the beginning of a long-awaited project. It has only been two years since construction began on the bridges. Now we are about to start main-line construction. This is definitely a time for celebration!" •



Mr. John Vassiliades, Project Manager

Dear Mr. Vassiliades:

As the project liaison for the City of Torrance, thank you for a successful project. We very much appreciate the time taken by Caltrans to inform us in advance of the work and keeping us "in the loop" during construction. With so many agencies involved, we know your staff had a lot of problems to handle. Since most work was done at night, communications were more difficult than usual, so we appreciate the extra effort. We received no citizen complaints and the roadway looks great! We hope Caltrans will continue to recognize the importance of working closely with the local agencies. Please extend our thanks to everyone involved!

Sincerely,

Sandy Cohen, Associate Engineer  
City of Torrance

Dear Caltrans:

Thank you again for the work done on Pacific Coast Highway in Torrance. It's beautiful and so much fun to drive on! The work was badly needed, and I am

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

### First Quarter Project Delivery

Caltrans District 7 was right on target for project delivery at the end of the first quarter of the current fiscal year (July 1 through September 30). According to Raja Mitwasi, Division Chief, Program and Project Management, major milestones are monitored quarterly. The following is an overview of the four major milestones for the first quarter.

#### Project Approval and Environmental Document:

19 milestones out of 19 delivered.

#### Right of Way Certification:

Three milestones out of four delivered. (Note: The 4th was delivered in October due to special lighting requirements.)

#### Ready to List:

Two milestones out of two delivered.

#### Construction Completion:

Four out of five milestones delivered.

(Note: The 5th had a minor delay in equipment delivery.)

A lot of effort and hard work from functional managers, project managers, Right of Way, Structures and other support units was demonstrated; and teamwork was key to reaching the milestone goals. According to Mitwasi, everyone worked together to be successful. He said, "Mike Perovich, Chief, Office of Design, Branch C, worked with us until the 11th hour to make this happen and get reports completed. Thanks to Mike for his dedication to these efforts."

In addition, Mitwasi said that substantial improvements are evident over previous years. One of the major reasons for the improvements, he says, is starting on time and staying on schedule.

Mitwasi encourages all support staff to view the status of project delivery by logging on <http://10.56.20.168/pirs/op/summary.cfm> — a user-friendly website which provides the status of projects, milestones, project managers, etc. Mitwasi said, "District 7 leads the way in providing the appropriate tools to manage the status of our improvement projects. Special thanks to our District Director, Robert W. Sassaman, as well as the Division Chiefs, for their continued support to successful project delivery." •

sure this has soothed many short-tempered drivers. Great work!

Jean Smith

Dear Mr. Vassiliades:

This letter is intended to express my sincere appreciation for the expeditious completion of the Pacific Coast Highway repaving project in Hermosa Beach. As you know, Pacific Coast Highway is our major arterial highway and any disruption to our residents or businesses was a major concern. You and your contractor were very sensitive to our needs and completed this project with minimal disruption. I had the opportunity to meet with your project coordinator and your contractor's superintendent and both displayed competence and patience in dealing with my questions. It is not often that a major project such as this goes as smoothly as this one did. Your project

coordinator and your contractor are to be commended.

Sincerely,

J. R. Reviczky, Mayor  
City of Hermosa Beach

### Himelhoch

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did it. We had a tremendous group of people — dedicated and capable. We did it on time and practically within budget." At the time of his retirement he oversaw design and maintenance activities for District 7. He said, "It's all been fun — I've enjoyed every assignment I've ever had."

Himelhoch is survived by his wife, Lavina, also a long-time Division of Highways Design employee who also retired in 1975; daughter Betty in Iowa; son Edward who resides in Arcadia; and three grandchildren. •



## Low Bedolla Retires

**V**eteran employee Lew Bedolla retired recently after 43 dedicated years of Caltrans service. At his time of retirement, Bedolla was the Office Chief of System Planning. He was known as a capable and focused employee and a forward-thinker who was keen on identifying improvements needed to accommodate future growth.

Bedolla established goals and objectives to support the Division of Planning's Mission and Vision. According to Raja Mitwasi, Division Chief, Program and Project Management, Bedolla was very professional in his work and relationships with others, and was a true people person who cared about his staff.

Mitwasi said, "Lew was dedicated to his work. I want to wish him the best of health and happiness. I am going to miss him." Caltrans sends its sincere appreciation to Lew for his long-standing commitment to quality in Caltrans. Congratulations Lew! Have a long and happy retirement! •



Lew Bedolla, center, receives a special certificate from the Quarter Century Club for 43 years of outstanding service. Bill Stewart, Chief, Office of Surveys, South, (left), and Richard Stewart, Chief, Office of Surveys, North, (right) present the award.

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

### Caltrans "Freeway Fliers" Triumphant In Employee Softball League

**C**ongratulations to the Caltrans "Freeway Fliers," the softball team which recently beat out the "Road Warriors" in the final playoff for the championship of the summer employee softball league. The two Caltrans teams are part of a league of six teams who played in sixteen games this past season. According to Wilford Melton, Senior Transportation Engineer and the league's Commissioner, playing on one of the employee teams is a great way to meet people, build friendships and foster camaraderie. Melton said, "I encourage all employees, from the District office and field offices as well, who would like to play to join us; and for everyone else to come to the games and cheer on their fellow employees." Plans are under way for a possible winter league, as well as one in the spring of 2001. Congratulations to the Caltrans Freeway Fliers! For additional information or to be part of a team, contact Wilford Melton at (213) 897-1344. •



**Champion Freeway Fliers!** Left to right top row: Steve Novotny, Cornell Kimball, Greg Farr, Ray Berrera. Middle row: Eric Solares, Sean Hoang, Matt Lipinski, Paul Sullivan, Dan Tran. Bottom row: Mike Yoshiba, Jean Demeo, Naomi Yamazawa, Marco Cabanillas, Pete Saporito and John Lee.



**Road Warriors** - Left to right top row: Pete Ramirez, Ken Silacci, Jeremy Theisgen, Nate Farr, Anthony Nava, Guillermo Fernandez, Boyd Mitchell, Ray Maynard. Bottom row: Kelly Martinez, Tasha Johnson, Judy Matsui and Monica Murillo



Everyone is encouraged to make a donation for the Caltrans Holiday Cage located in the District Office Building lobby. All donations of new clothes, toys or other items are given to the Midnight Mission for needy families. Please bring items to Public Affairs, Room 100. Thank you all in advance.

In the September issue of Inside Seven, an article on page 5 incorrectly identified Anthony Nunez in an article and photo regarding Caltrans and traffic reporters. It should have read Anthony Nuno. Our apologies.

## What's Cookin' At Caltrans

The following recipes are from the *Los Angeles Times California Cookbook*

### APPLE PECAN STUFFING

Butter or margarine	1/2 teaspoon parsley flakes
2/3 cup diced onion	1/8 teaspoon sage
2/3 cup diced celery	1/8 teaspoon thyme
3 cups diced day-old bread	1/2 cup chopped pecans
3 cups diced apples	1/2 cup water
1/8 teaspoon marjoram	
1 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon black pepper	

Melt 1/2 cup butter in skillet. Add onion and celery and cook until tender. Add vegetables to bread cubes. Melt 2 tablespoons butter in skillet. Stir in apples and cook until golden. Add apples to bread mixture. Mix in salt, pepper, sage, marjoram, thyme, parsley and pecans. Add water and mix thoroughly. Makes enough stuffing for an 8- to 10-pound turkey.

### SWEET POTATO PIE

1-1/2 cups mashed cooked sweet potatoes	1/2 cup milk
1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened	1-1/2 teaspoons nutmeg
1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla	4 eggs
1 cup granulated or brown sugar	Dash cinnamon
1 9-inch unbaked pastry shell	

Blend sweet potatoes with butter. Add eggs, sugar, nutmeg, vanilla and cinnamon. Stir in milk. Let stand overnight in refrigerator to set slightly. Turn into pastry shell and bake at 350 degrees for 1-1/2 hours. Cool. Makes about six servings.



## Inside Seven

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